

San Pedro Bay Historical Society Newsletter

WINTER 2019

FEBRUARY

Heritage Quilt Show April 7 & 14

The SPBHS is sponsoring a heritage quilt show at the Muller House Museum, Sunday, April 7 and Sunday, April 14, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Do you have a quilt with a strong San Pedro connection? Did it arrive here from another location or was it made in San Pedro? Was it part of a dowry or made for a special event or person? Is it taken out to be viewed only on special occasions or is it in daily use and shows the wear and tear of everyday life?

All quilts, old and new, have a story to tell. If you would like to have your quilt displayed and tell the story of its San Pedro connection, here's what we ask you to do:



- By March 11, email a photo of your quilt to sanpedrohistory@gmail.com Add a few words about the origins of the quilt and put the word "Quilt" in the subject line. If you prefer to mail the photo, send it to the San Pedro Bay Historical Society, P.O. Box 1568, San Pedro, CA 90733-1568. Be sure to include your contact information.
- The Education & Outreach Committee will determine which quilts will be displayed. Because of space limitations, we may not be able to show all entries. Photos will not be returned.
- You will be notified by March 25 whether your quilt has been selected for display.
- We will need your quilt by March 31.
- Someone familiar with the quilt must be present on one or both show days (April 7 & 14) to tell the San Pedro story of the quilt on display.
- No charge for participation or attendance.

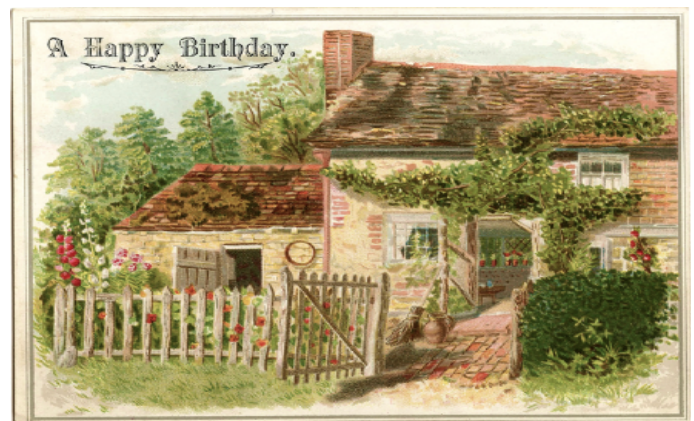
Archives Open House March 2

In recognition of San Pedro's 131st birthday, the SPBHS Archives are holding an Open House on Saturday, March 2, 11:00 – 2:00. Photos of San Pedro's earliest days and various artifacts will be on display. Our knowledgeable volunteers can answer your questions and explain how we manage this sizable collection. Browse the sale table of ephemera and SPBHS publications. Take in a tour of "Seventh Heaven," the jail area of the Municipal Building one floor up.

The Archives are located on the 6th floor of the John S. Gibson, Jr. Municipal Building (aka "City Hall"), 638 S. Beacon Street. The main entrance is on Beacon up a flight of stairs. If you need ground level access, ring the buzzer at the Harbor Blvd. entrance and take the elevator to the 6th floor.

Celebrate San Pedro's 131st at the Muller House Museum

San Pedro was founded as an independent municipal entity in 1888. One hundred and thirty-one years later this March, the town's birthday is still worth celebrating, even if we are now a part of the City of Los Angeles. Come for cupcakes and beverages at the Muller House on **Sunday, March 3**, from 1:00–4:00 p.m. Share your memories of San Pedro, tell us what living here means to you, and test your knowledge of San Pedro "factoids."



Election and Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting and election, November 17, 2018, was held in the spacious art deco setting of "It's Show Time," thanks to the generous hospitality of owners George Woytovich and Patti Kraakevik. Highlights of the meeting were the extensive tours of this Pacific Avenue showplace and the scrumptious savory and sweet snacks that Patti prepared.

The elected officers and board directors are:

Mona Dallas Reddick, President
Bob Bartlett, Vice President
Frank Anderson, Secretary
Jim Stanbery, Chief Financial Officer

Directors at Large

Irene Almeida
Donna Dragich
Martine Garcia
Linda Howat
Andrea Luse
Toni Martinovich
John Mattson
Kara McLeod
Toni O'Donnell
Angela Romero
Chuck Short
Ann Tompkins
Mary Jo Walker

Post-Election Change

Re-evaluating his time commitments in January, Jim Stanbery, our longtime CFO, decided to give up his duties. We are deeply grateful for Jim's decades of producing reports and analyzing our financial standing. He has agreed to remain on the board and continue as the board parliamentarian. The Finance Committee, headed by Mary Jo Walker and assisted by the president, will continue with the tasks of basic financial record keeping. To handle some of the more complex aspects of society finances, the board anticipates hiring professional assistance.

Program of the November Symposium: "WW I: Its Impact on the Harbor Communities"

For those who couldn't attend the symposium, the speakers and their talks are listed below. Bob Bartlett videotaped the talks, and we hope to have them posted online in the near future.

Jim MacLellan, Deputy Director Forum 21
An Overview of Total War
Local Economic Impacts

Jim MacLellan & Dr. Mona Dallas Reddick, Pres. SPBHS
The Shipyards & a Changed Landscape

Mona Dallas Reddick
Gains for Labor
On the Alert for Enemy Aliens
War Work in San Pedro: Do Your Part!

Olivia Cueva-Fernandez, Wilmington Historical Society
Historic Wilmington Cemetery, Trustee
The WW I Veterans at the Historic Wilmington Cemetery & Los Angeles WW I Monuments

Dr Geraldine Knatz, Professor of the Practice of Policy & Engineering, USC; Executive Director, POLA, retired
From Canal Fever to the Los Angeles Submarine Base

Steve Marconi, Journalist & San Pedro Historian
The Last Full Measure

Thanks to the speakers for sharing their research with us, to the YWCA, which graciously provided a venue for the symposium, and to Jim MacLellan for generously underwriting the reproduction of WW I posters and purchasing symposium supplies.



Launch of the SS *West Chetac* at Southwestern Shipbuilding on Terminal Island, 1919

WW I Memorial Plaque Donated to SPBHS

Timed perfectly for the WW I Symposium, Linda Shahian donated an old bronze memorial plaque to the Society. The plaque commemorates the loss of Roy A. Mowers, believed to have been the first young man from San Pedro to lose his life in the Great War. We are extremely grateful to Ms. Shahian for presenting us with this significant object.

The gold patination of the bronze plaque is worn or scraped away in spots, and it is very heavy, though not large. A shield-bearing eagle is sculpted at the top, its wings spread and flanked by two American flags. The inscription reads:

"This tablet and flagpole dedicated in memory of Private Roy A. Mowers, Company B.-11th M.G. Battalion, May 10, 1894–August 7, 1918, The first boy from San Pedro to make the supreme sacrifice on the field of action. 'Battle between Soissons and Rheims on Besle River.'"

Yet to be conclusively determined is the original location of the flagpole to which this plaque was affixed. Come see the plaque, currently on display at the Muller House Museum.

Would You Like to Receive Your Newsletter by Email?

If you are interested in receiving the SPBHS newsletter as an email attachment, please send an email to sanpedrohistory@gmail.com. In the subject line write, "Opt-In." Email distribution of the newsletter will save production and postage costs, and it means that you will more often receive the newsletter in color. Those who do not opt in will continue to receive their newsletter through the U.S. mail, and there is no need to do anything.

Newsletter written and produced by Mona Dallas Reddick.

Thank you to mailing volunteers: Mary Jo Walker, John Mattson, Bob Reddick, and volunteers at the Archives.

Harbor Residents Featured in Documentary at LA Harbor International Film Festival

Watch for announcements about the 16th Annual Los Angeles Harbor International Film Festival (LAHIFF), which runs from **March 14 – 17**. The last day of the festival, "Doc Sunday," features the film version of *Stories of the Los Angeles Harbor Area*, produced by Stephanie Mardesich and filmmaker Jack Barich. Twenty interviews were originally filmed, and excerpts have appeared on Youtube. Now, enjoy additional footage of your friends, neighbors, and harbor personalities telling the moving and sometimes amusing stories of their connection to this area. The festival venue is the Warner Grand, San Pedro.



Cleaning-up after the December holiday party at the Muller House. L-R: Andrea, Sandy, Barbara, Chuck, Bob, Krystyna, Ann, & an elbow.



Archives volunteers L-R: Ann, Mona, Toni, Doug, & Sandy representing SPBHS at the October "LA as Subject" Archives Bazaar, USC, showing off publications and talking to many.

San Pedro Bay Historical Society
P.O. Box 1568
San Pedro, CA 90733 - 1568

*Participate in the Heritage Quilt Show
April 7th & 14th, 2019!*



Detail of early 1930s appliqué quilt top by Helen G. Kane

Seeking Items for Yard Sale

We are seeking donated items in clean, salable condition for an August yard sale. Drop-offs are accepted during Muller House open hours on the first two Sundays of the month, and pick-ups can be arranged by leaving a message at the Archives or emailing sanpedrohistory@gmail.com. Furniture items must be small. Unfortunately, we cannot accept everyday clothing, books, or VHS tapes.

San Pedro Bay Historical Society's Archives

6th Floor of the

John S. Gibson, Jr. Municipal Building
638 S. Beacon Street, San Pedro, CA 90731
Phone: (310) 548-3208

Open Mondays & Wednesdays, 1:00–4:00 &
11:00–2:00 the first Saturday of the month

The Muller House Museum

1542 S. Beacon Street
San Pedro, CA 90731
Phone: (310) 831-1788

Open the first two Sundays of the month
1:00 to 4:00

The last house tour starts at 3:30
Visit the Muller House Gift Shop for SPBHS
publications, china, glassware, and the
unexpected.

[www. sanpedrobayhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.sanpedrobayhistoricalsociety.com)
Contact us at sanpedrohistory@gmail.com